## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INT-05 NSC-05 OMB-01 OES-06 STR-04 FRB-03 /105 W

-----290434Z 012817 /75-61

R 281414Z MAR 77 FM USMISSION NATO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2477 INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 1752

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, XH, NATO, EEWT

SUBJECT: ECONADS: REPORT ON NATO COUNTRIES 1975 IMPORTS OF

PETROLEUM FROM SOV/EE

REF: (A) 76 USNATO 4817, (B) 76 STATE 222484

1. WE HAVE POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT (RPE-SWARTZ) AC/127-WP/504 "NATO COUNTRIES' IMPORTS OF OIL FROM THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN 1975." THIS IS ONE OF THE ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE'S PERIODIC ANALYSES OF THE TOPIC, DRAWING ON OECD OIL COMMITTEE STATISTICS. SINCE IT HAD BUT RECENTLY BEEN CIRCULATED IN ENGLISH, DISCUSSION OF THE PAPER AT THE MARCH 24 CONADS MEETING WAS PERFUNCTORY BUT BILLY INTENDS TO SCHEDULE IT AGAIN AT THE MARCH 31 MEETING, LOOKING FORWARD TO EARLY COMMITTEE APPROVAL AND ISSUANCE OF A "C-M" DOCUMENT FOR THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL. IN THE PAST, THESE REPORTS HAVE NORMALLY BEEN SENT TO THE NAC ONLY "FOR INFORMATION," BUT THE ITALIAN REP (TESTORI) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES FELT IT SHOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF COUNCIL DISCUSSION. THIS ACCORDS WITH A NAC MANDATE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ECONOMIC COMMITTEE LAST NOVEMBER (76 USNATO 6482) FOR CLOSE ATTENTION TO SOV/EE ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS.

2. ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL UK CIRTICISM, REF (A), OF
THE LONG LAG BETWEEN THE END OF THE PERIOD COVERED AND
THE ISSUANCE OF THE NATO REPORT, ITSELF DEPENDENT ON
AVAILABILITY OF THE OECD COMPILIATION, AND THE SUGGESTION,
SUPPORTED BY THE US (REF B), THAT THE ALLIES TAKE STEPS
TO EXCHANGE REQUISITE DATA ON A MUCH MORE TIMELY BASIS.
WHILE THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT IN ECONADS THAT EFFORTS

ALONG THIS LINE BE PURSUED, CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE HAVE BEEN SPOTTY, AND SOME ECONADS HAVE COMMENTED INFORMALLY ON THEIR DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING COOPERATION OF STATISTICAL AUTHORITIES AT HOME.

- 3. WHILE THE SITUATION MIGHT CONCEIVABLY CHANGE IN THE LIGHT OF MORE DETAILED OECD ATTENTION TO E-W ENERGY TRADE (E.G. EP(77)7), THE NATO REPORT'S PRIMARY CONCERN WITH THE NATIONAL SECURITY ASPECTS OF NATO COUNTRIES' DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTS FROM SOV/EE SOURCES ARGUES THAT ANALYSIS HERE IS NO DUPLICATION. IT ALSO APPEARS FROM EP(77)7, PARA 2, THAT THE DATA AVAILABLE TO OECD ACOULD BE IMPROBED BY A MORE PURPOSE-ORIENRED QUESTIONAIRE (STATE 49886 AGREES).
- 4. WITH THESE FACTORS IN MIND, US REP SUGGESTED, ON A PERSONAL BASIS, THAT ECONADS GIVE CONSIDERATION TO EXPANDING THE EVENTUAL "C-M" TEXT TO ASK THE COUNCIL NOT ONLY TO "NOTE" THE REPORT BUT ALSO TO REQUEST MEMBER NATIONS TO PROVIDE TO THE NATO ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE PERTINENT ENERGY STATISTICAL MATERIAL COINCIDENT WITH NATIONAL SUBMISSIONS TO OECD. THIS COULD PERMIT MORE TIMELY ANALYSIS OF TRADE AND DEPENDENCY TRENDS. THERE WERE NO IMMEDIATE REACTIONS FROM OTHER ECONADS.
- 5. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) COMMENTS, IF ANY, ON AC/127-CONFIDENTIAL

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WP/504; (B) CONCURRENCE OR OTHER GUIDANCE TO SUGGESTION IN PARA 4; AND (C) UPDATE (AS REQUESTED USNATO A-34) OF US IMPORT DATA PROVIDED REF (B).STRAUSZ-HUPE

CONFIDENTIAL

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am

Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition Leent.
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO01752

**Document Source: ADS Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a

Executive Order: 11652 GDS

Errors: n/a **Expiration:** Film Number: n/a Format: TEL From: NATO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703110/baaabcoz.tel

Line Count: 91 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Message ID: 5b9f01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2 Previous Channel Indicators:

Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) 76 USNATO 4817, (B) 76 STATE 222484
Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** 

Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2963669 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ECONADS: REPORT ON NATO COUNTRIES 1975 IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM FROM SOV/EE

TAGS: ENRG, XH, NATO, EEWT To: STATE **INFÓ OECÓ PARIS** 

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/5b9f01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009